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DECEMBER 12, 2005

*Heidi M. May*  
(signature)  
HEIDI M. MAY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
GERHARDINGER, PETER F. ) Group Art Unit: 3742  
Serial No.: 10/696,754 ) Examiner: Sang Yeop Paik  
)  
Filing Date: October 29, 2003 ) Attorney Docket: 1-15693  
For: HEATING PLATE ASSEMBLY )  
FOR A COOKING APPLIANCE )

December 12, 2005

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED  
EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Honorable Sir:

This preliminary amendment accompanies the attached Request for Continuing Examination and is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action of September 15, 2005. The applicant has carefully studied the references cited by the Examiner and the comments relative thereto.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.